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<b>REQUEST For CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Address to: <b>MAIL STOP RCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450</b>  (Revised 09/2003)	Application Number 10/088,538
	Filing Date June 10, 2002
	First Named Inventor: Thomas N. Masters
	Art Unit: 1617
	Examiner Name: Russell S. Travers
	Confirmation No.: 6926
	Attorney Docket No. 038151/203996
<b>This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.</b>	

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Affidavits(s)/Declarations(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS);      of cites listed on PTO Form 1449
- iv. ☒ Other: Extension of Time

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

In re: Thomas N. Masters

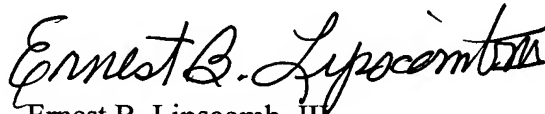
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Filed: June 10, 2002

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3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is **required** by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)  
(\$770.00 large entity; \$385.00 small entity)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F. R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$385.00 (RCE fee) and \$475.00 (Ext. of Time Fee) enclosed

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ernest B. Lipscomb, III  
Registration No. 24,733

**Customer No. 00826**

**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**

Bank of America Plaza

101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000

Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

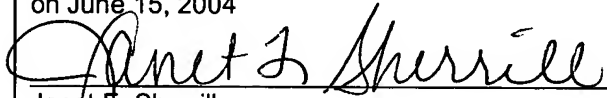
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CLT01/4652354v1

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,  
on June 15, 2004

  
Janet F. Sherrill



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/088,538 Confirmation No.: 6926  
Applicant(s): Thomas N. Masters  
Filed: June 10, 2002  
Art Unit: 1617  
Examiner: Russell S. Travers  
Title: SOLUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HEARTS

Docket No.: 038151/203996  
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**37 CFR § 1.115**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.